ALDI FORÓIGE
YOUTH CITIZENSHIP
AWARDS 2018

#AldiForóigeAwards
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The Aldi Foróige Youth Citizenship Awards

The Aldi Foróige Youth Citizenship Awards will take place in the Citywest Hotel on April 21st 2018.

Over 2,000 young people from throughout Ireland will travel to the awards to showcase their work in the community and 500 Foróige and Aldi volunteers will be helping out on the day.

These awards celebrate young people who have been a powerful force for good in their communities. Over 200 groups of 10 - 18 year olds, representing all 26 counties, will exhibit their community enhancement initiatives. The issues they tackle include health, homelessness, the environment, disability, Brexit, road safety, animal welfare, community wellbeing, equality and mental health.

This event will be a bold and beautiful celebration of young people who will learn, laugh, dance and play in an ‘Enchanted Garden’. The arena will be magically decorated with festoon lighting, bunting, giant flowers, oversized garden furniture and a maypole with a hot air balloon centerpiece. Fun is the name-of-the-game with activities including a vintage chair swing, a maze, abseiling, silent disco, bungee trampoline and much more.

The Aldi Foróige Youth Citizenship Awards will be officially opened by Minister of State for Equality, Immigration and Integration, David Stanton T.D. at 12pm; Alison Curtis will MC the opening and awards ceremonies; Claire Beck will be the resident D.J. and band Seo Linn will entertain the crowd.

This celebration marks the most successful year to date for the Aldi Foróige Youth Citizenship Programme, with over 15,500 young people participating. Involvement in the programme empowers young people to believe in themselves, take on tasks they may never have thought they would be capable of and achieve things that are truly inspirational.

Youth Citizenship has been core to Foróige’s work for almost 50 years. This is the fourth year Foróige has partnered with Aldi to provide the programme and this partnership has facilitated the growth of the Youth Citizenship Programme and Awards; making it bigger and better than ever before with more young people taking part and greater youth participation in the community.

The programme empowers young people to make positive change in the world through examining their local community, coming up with a way to make it a better place and then working hard to make it happen.
### Event Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>11.00pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Exhibition begins</strong> &amp; <strong>Activities Open</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vintage Chair Swing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>A Maze</td>
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<td>Abseiling</td>
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<td>Silent Disco</td>
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<td>Bungee Trampoline</td>
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<td></td>
<td>And more</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>12:15pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Opening Ceremony</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>MC: Alison Curtis</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Official opening by Minister of State at the Department of Justice and Equality with special responsibility for Equality, Immigration and Integration, David Stanton, T.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>12:30pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>DJ Set</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Claire Beck</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2:15pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Entertainment</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>2.15pm - 2.35pm  Seo Linn</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.45pm - 3.05pm  DJ Set</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.15pm – 3.50pm  Seo Linn</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4:15pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Presentation of ‘Best Display’ and ‘Ones to Watch’ Awards</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4:30pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Awards Ceremony</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5:00pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Event Closes</strong></td>
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Animal Welfare

Togher Youth Development Project, Boys Group, Cork
An initiative to tackle the challenge of dog waste

This group worked on the issue of dog waste as they noticed that it was a problem in the community and they called their project STINKY STUFF. They surveyed the community about how they dispose of dog waste and what facilities could help. They discovered that there are not enough bins in the area, so they decided to design and provide dog bins. As well as this, they created reusable dog waste holders you can take home to your own bin. Finally, the group are in talks with the local litter warden supervisor and the environmental officer to get more bins in their community and to organise collections of dog waste.

Celbridge Foróige Youth Café, Kildare
A sponsored dog walk to raise funds to train an autism assistance dog

Celbridge Youth Café became aware of the need to fundraise to help train an assistance dog for a local boy with autism. They researched the costs involved in training the dog, and the benefits that having a dog would have on the boys life. The group decided that a sponsored ‘dog walk’ was the best way to raise money. They publicised the event by designing and distributing posters, contacting the local newspaper and through social media. The young people also put together treat bags for dogs that would be part of the sponsored walk.

ESL Programme, Dublin 15
A project to fundraise for the DSPCA by selling dog bandanas

The group did a walkabout to gain a better understanding of the needs of their community. They realised that it was important to raise awareness of animal welfare in their locality. They decided to make dog bandanas to raise funds for the DSPCA. The young people received positive feedback about their project, gained a greater understanding of animal welfare, and learned that members of their community are very supportive of the issue.

Fantastic Foróige Juniors, Dublin 24
An animal welfare project including a talk from the DSPCA

The young people from the Fantastic Foróige Club wanted to support the ISPCA and learn about their work and caring for animals. The group organised a group tour of the facilities and prepared questions to ask prior to their trip. They listened to an educational talk, asked questions and then visited the animals.

Foróige Juniors, Rathvilly, Carlow
A fundraiser and awareness campaign for Irish Guide Dogs

Rathvilly Foróige Juniors wanted to learn more about the work of the Irish Guide Dogs and organised a talk with their local branch. They discovered that it costs €38,000 to train each dog and were determined to assist by holding their own fundraiser. The group produced slime at their club and sold it to friends and family. They successfully raised €201 for the Irish Guide Dogs.

Lackagh 4 Foróige Club, Galway
A fundraising project for ‘Dogs for the Disabled’

Lackagh Foróige club 4 decided to support ‘Dog’s for the Disabled’ in their fundraising efforts. They attended the Dogs for the Disabled Galway ‘shake the bucket event’ in Shop Street Galway. The group also helped out at the their Christmas awareness and fundraising event held by the charity in Eyre Square. Finally the group held a bake sale with a donation from each sale going towards Guide Dogs.
Skerries Foróige Club, Dublin

*An animal welfare campaign and fundraiser for Dogs Trust and the DSPCA*

Skerries Foróige club chose to support Dogs Trust through an awareness campaign and fundraiser. The group created a leaflet to hand out in schools dealing with animal welfare and how to care for dogs. They collected blankets and dog toys which they donated to Dogs Trust. They also fundraised €350 for Dublin Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

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**Anti-Bullying**

**Ballymakealy Film Group, Kildare**

*An anti-bullying video*

The Ballymakealy DPEI Film Group decided to make a short film to show the negative effects of bullying, and to encourage young people to think about their behaviour and actions. They studied the filmmaking process, brainstormed ideas and wrote a script to highlight the issue. The group learned new skills such as filmmaking, working as part of a team and created a video that increased awareness.

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**Becky Creedon, Cork**

*An educational anime on bullying*

Aware that bullying can lead to anxiety and depression in young people, Becky Creedon decided she wanted to tackle the topic through producing an educational anime. She conducted a survey to research the topic and better understand people's opinions about bullying. Upon analysing the results and after seeking inspiration from anime movies produced by Cork IT students, Becky created her own anime.

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**Clonee Girls Guides, Dublin 15**

*A workshop to tackle the issue of bullying*

The Clonee Girl Guides decided to create and deliver a workshop on anti bullying to younger members of their community. In three groups the girls each administered a 10 minute workshop and included questionnaires, songs and discussions on the topic of bullying.

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**Foróige Juniors, Ardee, Louth**

*An animated video tackling cyber bullying*

Aware that cyber bullying is an issue that a lot of young people are dealing with, Ardee Foróige Juniors decided to tackle the issue through raising awareness of the subject by producing an animated video. The group wrote a script, developed characters and designed scenes for the piece. Members were also involved in doing voice overs, writing slogans and editing the video.

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**Paulstown Foróige Club, Kilkenny**

*A walk and talk to raise awareness of bullying*

The chairperson and a volunteer from Paulstown Foróige Club arranged a meeting with the principal of the local primary school to seek permission to carry out and explain their plans for a walk and talk workshop to tackle bullying. The group ordered 50 hi-vis jackets from the Road Safety Authority and designed event specific badges and stickers. The group delivered a speech to the 6th class pupils on dealing with bullying. The group created posters that lined the road which they walked with the students and held informal discussions on bullying.

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**St. Joseph’s Youth Programme, Cork**

*A walk to raise awareness of bullying*

Following a number of workshops, the group realised that it was important to highlight the issue of bullying. After researching the matter, they decided to organise an anti-bullying march to raise awareness.
awareness. The young people worked as a team to advertise the event, organise guests, and book a hall to host the event. The march was a great success, and they hope to make it an annual event in order to continue to promote an anti-bullying message.

**Tyrrelstown 6th Class Afterschool Group, Dublin 15**  
*An anti-bullying campaign in local schools*  
After discussing the needs of their community, the young people discovered that bullying was an issue in their primary school. They decided to create posters to highlight an anti-bullying message. They reached out to local schools to display the posters in their buildings. The group received very positive feedback from the community about their project, and are considering extending it to secondary schools.

**Wicklow Comhairle na nÓg, Wicklow**  
*A youth needs survey and the production of a cyber bullying charter*  
Wicklow Comhairle na nÓg undertook a Youth Survey across the County which was completed by 1000 young people. The results told them what the “Very Important” issues were for young people. Cyber Bullying was one of the top 3 issues and some of the comments in the survey led them to believe that something more needed to be done. They then held workshops about who is involved in Cyber Bullying beyond the bully and the victim. It was agreed that there are five main actors involved in Cyber Bullying. The bully, the bullied, those in authority, the bystander and all young people. They then created a charter which gave advice to each of the five actors which they launched on Safer Internet Day.

**Community Belonging**  
*Aughagower Foróige Club, Mayo*  
*A community spirit project supporting a number of local events*  
Aughagower Foróige Club wanted to unite their community and support a number of local initiatives. They assisted the local athletics club by giving medals and water at the finish line of their sports day. They also helped the local community council to organise a Christmas Fair and Santa Party. The group are proud to be part of such a strong and supportive community where all generations work together for the good of the locality.

**Ballyhean Foróige Club, Mayo**  
*A community carol service with refreshments*  
Ballyhean Foróige Club wanted to offer the opportunity for people in the area to meet their neighbours. The group decided to get involved in the Christmas choir for seasonal carol singing and provided refreshments and an opportunity for people to meet in their clubhouse afterwards. They advertised the event in a local newsletter and invited the community to attend.

**Bofeenaun Foróige Club, Mayo**  
*A quiz night to celebrate the younger members of the local GAA club*  
Bofeenaun Foróige Club noticed that while there was a dinner dance for older members of the local GAA club, the younger community members did not have an opportunity to celebrate their success, so they decided to arrange something for them. The club arranged a venue, compiled quiz questions and created answer sheets. They rewarded the young people who attended with goodie bags which they provided and arranged prizes for the winners. Approximately 40 children attended the event.
Castlebar STEAM Youth Group, Mayo
An intercultural project to integrate the community and establish friendships
This group decided they wanted to encourage cultural awareness through video. They were inspired by the fact that the group is made up of people from several different cultural backgrounds. They discussed the challenges people face settling into life in Ireland and researched world affairs to make a video they hoped would engage and educate those around them. They made their video using STEAM equipment and learnt about different types of interview technique and animations. Making the video has helped them make stronger bonds with each other and their community.

Cloghan Foróige Club, Offaly
A Santa Disco for younger members of the community
Cloghan Foróige Club noticed the need for greater interaction with younger members of their community. After conducting a survey in local schools, the group decided to organise a Santa Disco, which would give the children of the community and their parents the opportunity to come together, socialise and meet Santa! The group worked as a team to organise the event, and the Santa Disco received great feedback from everyone who attended. They plan to continue this project every year.

Club Voices, Tallaght District Council, Dublin 24
A display for the reception area of the Foróige Office in Tallaght
The members of Club Voices are responsible for bringing the voice of young people to Tallaght District Council. The Club saw the opportunity to promote Foróige and the views of young people when Tallaght Youth Service was being refurbished. The group also designed a picture to be displayed in the reception area.

Coachford Foróige Club, Cork
A social day to bring the community together
Coachford Foróige Club were invited to organise an over 60s event but wanted to ensure that everyone felt welcome. They divided into two teams, one focusing on organisational aspects and the other on advertising the event. Collectively they organised a day time event and held a raffle, performed a dance they had choreographed and provided entertainment.

Cong Foróige Club, Mayo
An initiative to help organise Cong Food Festival
Cong Foróige Club worked with Cong Food Festival to organise the biggest food festival in the history of the area. The group helped to advertise the festival by handing leaflets out in the local primary school and putting up posters in the nearby towns. The group passed out booklets during the festival and provided face painters. They were also responsible for calculating footflow and assisting with workshops.

Doireann McElroy & Beth Deerey, Louth
An Easter Egg Hunt to raise funds for a local playground
Doireann McElroy and Beth Deery decided to raise money to donate towards a new playground that was being built in their community. After researching ideas for events that would suit their locality and families with younger children, they decided to organise an Easter Egg Hunt. They sourced a venue and prizes, as well as publicising the event on social media and posting a notice in the local paper and parish bulletin. The event was a great success, they raised €500 for the new playground.
Duleek Foróige Club (Senior Group), Meath

A local history community day and video
Duleek Foróige Club noted the loss of many elderly community members and were aware that much of the history of the area was being lost with them. In an effort to preserve the precious oral history of Duleek they arranged a fun community day at which they filmed interviews with older generations. The group then produced a video documenting important historical stories and memories.

Foróige Juniors, Narraghmore, Kildare

A project to bring festive cheer to the community over Christmas and Easter
Narraghmore Foróige club were on a mission to bring festive cheer to their community over Christmas and Easter. For Christmas they made decorations for the local hall such as pompoms, giant wreaths and paper snowflakes. They helped organise the local Santa visit for the children of the community with many of them taking on the role of elves on the day. For the Easter celebrations the group painted wooden cut outs of Easter eggs, bunnies and chicks and placed them infront of a derelict building in the community.

Kilfinane 'Give it A Go' Group, Limerick

A 'Give it a Go' day for the community to gain new experiences
The Kilfinane Foróige group decided to organise a 'Give it a Go' event to support their community. The group used a local apple farm and its interior buildings and landscaped outdoor spaces to host the event. They arranged activities including karate, basket weaving, circus skills, sean nós singing and dancing and make up masterclasses. The activities were new to the area and gave locals the opportunity to experience something new. The fun event also had music, food stalls, colouring competitions and much much more.

Knocklyon Foróige Club (KFC), Dublin 16

A campaign to promote Knocklyon Foróige Club
The group decided to develop a mascot in order to promote Knocklyon Foróige Club. The group mindmapped animals common in Ireland and narrowed it down to their preferred five animals. One member then digitally photoshopped the animals in order to make one final mascot.

Legends Foróige Club, Clare

A Halloween party for the entire community
With the knocking of the local GAA hall, the community Halloween party was cancelled. The members of Legend's Foróige Club wanted to continue the tradition and decided took on to host the party in their Club. The group advertised the event locally and organised Halloween games pumpkin carving and refreshments.

Mucklagh Foróige Club, Offaly

An Easter egg hunt to bring the community together
Mucklagh Foróige Club wanted to engage with their community and particularly the children in the area. They noticed that children and young people could not participate in some local activities and events and they wanted to provide a fun activity over the Easter break for them. The group organised an Easter Egg hunt in the local GAA field. They arranged an obstacle course and live music for the event and served refreshments.

My Time Juniors, Clare

An initiative to promote random acts of kindness
My Time Foróige Juniors wanted to show the power of 'Random Acts of Kindness' and that you don't have to do something just because you expect something in return. The group engaged in a series of random acts of kindness including providing food gifts that could be used for Christmas dinner to
local households. They divided into small groups and provided bags of carrots, onions and brussel sprouts to every third house in an estate in Scarriff.

Nenagh Youth Council, Tipperary  
*A Halloween fun night for the community*
Nenagh Youth Council ran a Halloween fun night for the community so that they could socialise in a safe environment. The event involved fun Halloween games and activities such as face painting, mask making and a fancy dress competition. They showed the movie "The Nightmare before Christmas" which was supervised by project staff and volunteers. The event was a great success enjoyed by all.

Phibblestown Leadership Group, Dublin 15  
*A volunteering project to support the junior youth café*
This group decided to volunteer with the junior café group as it was in danger of being cancelled due to a lack of volunteers. They organised activities to do with the young members such as decorating Halloween cupcakes, making Valentine’s Day cards and artwork for other occasions. They also, together with the younger members, raised awareness of the café and discussed ways of getting more volunteers and members in order to keep it open.

Pick 'n' Mix, Corduff Community Youth Project, Dublin 15  
*A "cake bake" to treat the hardworking local Mother and Toddler Group*
Corduff Community Youth Project researched the issues in their area, and noticed a need to help out the hardworking local Mother and Toddler Group. They decided to bake cakes as a treat for the group. They planned their ingredients, and practised baking, before handing out the cakes to parents, toddlers, and staff members. The young people received great feedback, and hope to organise a similar event for other groups in the community.

Quay Foróige Club, Mayo  
*A project to help local children to have a happy Christmas*
The Quay Foróige Club wanted to engage with the annual Bronntanas Scheme, which pairs a donor with a child to ensure every child gets a present for Christmas. The members made donations of €2/€3 and tallied the final sum to determine how many donations they could make. The group recieved information on the types of gifts they should buy for their designated young person and went out and purchased the relevant gifts. The group wrapped the gifts and sent them to be gifted.

Rathvilly Foróige Club, Carlow  
*A project to help organise a local Christmas festival*
Due to previous successful projects with the Community Development Group, Rathvilly Foróige Club decided to continue the relationship and assist with the annual Christmas festival. The members organised a weekend of events including a carol service, dinner for local senior citizens and a Christmas fair.

Slane Youth Café - Crew, Meath  
*A tea dance to commemorate the centenary of World War I and the poet Francis Ledwidge*
The Slane Youth Café Crew had grown up hearing the works and history of local poet Francis Ledwidge and wanted to engage with the community centenary celebrations. The group applied for a grant for putting together a piece for the centenary. They decided to host a traditional Tea Dance which would have been popular during the first World War. The young people organised costumes, appropriate music to the time and refreshments. The group also utilised the occasion to get to know the older members of the community.
The DEN Girls, Tipperary

*An information stand for young people in the area*

The DEN Girls wanted to provide an information stand for the young people of the area so that they would know what supports are available to them. The group contacted organisations which they felt would be useful to include information about and requested posters and leaflets. A prominent position was chosen in the local youth space and the information stand was established.

The Port Project, Laois

*A thank you to active members of the community*

The Port Project were aware that some people in the community gave so much to the area but didn’t always receive the praise and thanks that they deserved. They decided to create and deliver thank you bags to these active members of the community.

Thomas Kerr, Offaly

*The establishments of a special interest music group for young people*

Thomas Kerr set up a Music Interest Group for young people between 12 and 18 years in the West Offaly area, recruiting a new Foróige Volunteer with a background in music technology to work with the group, and encouraging membership from Clubs in the area. He worked with the existing Foróige Volunteers in Ferbane to set up a structure for the group, and ensure that it is properly affiliated and registered. He sought assistance from Foróige members in Ferbane in making an application to Offaly Youth Bank for funding to help with establishing the group and rental of a space for meetings/music sessions. He placed a notice in the Church Bulletin, local papers and Facebook inviting young people to come along to the group. The Brosna Music Group now has a place to share their love of music and explore new possibilities.

Warriors Foróige Juniors, Waterford

*An exhibition to highlight the artistic talents of young people in the community*

The Warriors Junior Foróige Club decided to organise an Art Exhibition to highlight how talented young people are. After group discussion, they decided to call the project 'My World'. They felt the project would allow children in the community to express their artistic abilities. The group worked as a team to overcome challenges, and received great feedback about the project from the wider community. They plan to continue to highlight the matter, and promote interest in art among local children.

Community Regeneration

Mulhuuddart Community Youth Project, Boys Group, Dublin 15

*A community pride project to paint the local community centre.*

In light of the weather the MCYP Boys Group had to redesign their project. Instead of painting an eyesore container in the area the group decided to paint the community centre instead. The group sourced materials from local businesses and sought permission and assistance from the community centre care taker.

WEB Project, Tyrrelstown, Boys Project, Dublin 15

*A campaign to re-open the local astro turf pitch*

The Tyrrelstown Web Boys noticed that since the closure of the astro turf field there had been a decline in the number of children outside. They decided to bring back the astro and worked with another local youth group on the initiative. They designed a questionnaire, put the questionnaire online and analysed the results. The group also met with the county council to further their cause.
Brickens Foróige Club, Mayo  
A project to build a bench for the community
Bricken’s Foróige club decided to give the community a bench for outside their community centre. The group worked in partnership with the local Men’s Shed group to build the bench and approached the hall committee to decide where the bench should be placed. The project was also a means to bring people together, as a raffle was held to fund a family fun day for the unveiling of the bench. The six girls involved in the project were delighted with their success #GirlPower!

Brookfield Diamond Divas, Dublin 24  
A promotional campaign for the local youth café.
After 7 months of being closed, the local youth café has been reopened in Brookfield and the Brookfield Diamond Divas were eager to promote the space and ensure young people knew there was a space for them to go. The group held an open night for the café. They organised refreshments, decorations and created a ‘Welcome back to our Foróige Café’ poster.

Clonakilty Foróige Club, Cork  
A fundraising drive for a youth centre for Clonakilty
Clonakilty Foróige Club conducted a survey to identify whether there was a need for a youth centre in the area. Following discussions with local representatives, including local councillors and Minister of State Jim Daly, a youth centre committee was formed including youth members and adult volunteers. A target of €70,000 was identified as the amount they needed to raise to open the centre. A series of fundraising initiatives have taken place including a concert with musician Tommy Fleming raising, carol singing and a bake sale. The group also placed a fundometer at the site of the proposed youth centre and so far the committee has raised €64,000 through donations from the community.

Corduff Boys, Dublin 15  
A football tournament to raise funds for a new community garden
The group became aware of plans for a new garden in their community, and realised that it was an important project to support. They decided to use their talent for football, and organised a tournament to raise funds for the new community garden. They researched what was involved in creating the local amenity, and had workshops to learn about seeding and planting in the garden. Through the money raised from the football tournament, the young people purchased apple trees and compost for the garden. Through the project the group also got to know new members of their community, and left a very positive impression as a result of their work.

Cuffesgrange Foróige Club, Kilkenny  
A refurbishment of the local Bishop Ireland Monument
A member of the local community approached the young people of Cuffesgrange Foróige Club and asked for their assistance to restore the Bishop Ireland Memorial. On inspection, the group realised that not only was the memorial in disrepair, but so too were the pumps. The group renovated the memorial by wire brushing the railing, cutting away overgrowth, powerwashing the area and treating with anti fungal spray. Later the group painted the railing, erected the plaque which they had restored and cleared and cleaned the pumps.

Dunree Foróige Club, Donegal  
A renovation of a historical local graveyard
Dunree Foróige Club decided to renovate a graveyard in their community which dated back over 500 years as they felt it was a good way to encourage people to look into their ancestors and learn their history. The group sought permission from the parish priest to pursue the project. The members contacted a local genealogy group to ensure their project was safe for the gravestones.
Foróige Kilmallock Arties, Limerick  
**A riverside mural to brighten up an important community walkway**  
After being approached by members of the community to use their creativity to brighten up the area, the Kilmallock Arties decided to design a mural. The group chose to house their art on an alleyway used to access the river as it was a focal point in the town and a large audience would benefit from it. It took the group three weeks to perfect the drawing and design for the image which centers on the River Loobagh Goddess.

Funky Monkeys Foróige Juniors, Dublin 9  
**A thank you garden at the local community centre**  
As a new group located in the Kingswood Community Center the Funky Monkeys noticed the grounds of the center had very few flowers or trees and those that were there had been badly damaged by the snow. They approached the manager and asked to create a garden to say thank you for letting them use the center.

Galway City Foróige Youth Café, Galway  
**A renovation project for the local youth café**  
This group met every Wednesday to plan and renovate the Foróige Youth Café. They cleaned out the recording and dance studios, sanded down worn areas, varnished them and painted the place as well. The group want future generations to be able to enjoy the café as they have done, and plan to continue working on the project each week into the summer months.

Ignite Foróige Juniors, Dublin 15  
**A fundraiser to replace the roof on the community centre and for local charity Aoibheann’s Pink Tie**  
The group became aware that the roof of the community centre in which they are based needed to be replaced. They decided to organise an event to raise funds towards this, and also for 'Aoibheann’s Pink Tie', a local children's cancer charity. After brainstorming ideas, they decided to hold a 5K Sponsored Walk. The young people raised €300 through the event, which they donated to the local community centre, and to 'Aoibheann’s Pink Tie'.

KEY Project, Fettercairn, Dublin 24  
**A project to build flower boxes for a community garden**  
The young people noticed that there was an issue with littering, stray horses and vandalism in their local area. They wanted to do something for the local community to help restore local pride. Following meetings with the Community Centre Manager and the local Men's Shed Group, they decided to create flower boxes for the community garden. They sourced the material, worked with the Men's Shed Group to cut timber, and then planted the flower boxes. Through the project, the young people developed new skills, built relationships with other groups, and provided a new amenity for the community to enjoy.

Kilmallock 2nd Year Group, Limerick  
**A refurbishment of the local handball alley**  
The Kilmallock 2nd Year Group recognised that there were a lack of sporting facilities in their area. The group decided to refurbish the outdoor handball alley which had fallen into disrepair. The group examined the work needed to be done and contacted local businesses to sponsor costs and materials to refurbish the court. The young people painted, weeded, cleared up rubbish and cleaned the handball alley throughout January and February.
Loughglyn Foróige Club, Roscommon
*A project to discover the heritage and history of their community*
Loughglynn Foróige Club were approached by History Lecturer Gabriel Doherty, to enquire if they would be marking the 150th anniversary of Ned Duffy, the well known local historical figure. The group realised that, while they had heard his name, they knew very little about him. They also became aware that they had little knowledge of their community’s history and heritage. They became aware that it was important to learn more about their local history, and to celebrate these people and their stories. They decided to organise an event to highlight the history of their locality, and also to run a play to re-enact the trial of Ned Duffy. The event was a huge success, with very positive feedback from members of the local community. The young people have been invited to give a presentation on their project at the local primary school, and have been asked to another upcoming local history day.

Magical Rainbow Girls, Dublin 24
*A clean-up and mural for the local community centre*
The group received funding from South Dublin County Council to carry out a painting project. The group worked together to design a communal poster that they could paint on the outside walls of Glenshane Community Centre. The group also organised and participated in a community clean up project.

Milltown Foróige Club, Kildare
*A garden of remembrance for those buried in unmarked graves in Milltown*
Milltown Foróige Club approached the community through a local newspaper article to determine projects that needed support. One response asked if they would help with the disrepair of a number of gravestones. On a tour of the graveyard the group were informed that an area of unmarked graves existed in unconsecrated ground which included babies who died before they were baptised and victims of suicide. The graves were not identified or marked in any way and for the most part the burials took place in secret. The group decided to commemorate those who were buried through the creation of a Garden of Remembrance. The garden needed to be accessible and sensitive to the community. The group planted a tree, arranged a plaque, planted shrubs and flowers and organised a special memorial service.

Mulhuddart Youth Participation Group, Dublin 15
*A survey and meeting with the mayor to discuss a major development planned for the area.*
The young people of the Mulhuddart Youth Participation Group decided to engage with the planned development of 1,000 houses. They carried out a survey to determine the opinions of young people on the planned development and met with the Mayor of Fingal to share the opinions of young people. The group are focusing on ensuring that the development meets the needs of young people as best as possible.

Raheny Foróige Club, Dublin 5
*A campaign to save a local park*
Members of Raheny Foróige Club became aware of a campaign in their community to save the local park, and they decided that it was important that young people have their voice heard on this important issue. They carried out research into the matter in order to form their position. They sent in an opposition letter to Dublin City Council against plans to build flats in the location. They also raised awareness by organising a walk around the park. Through this project the group learned a lot about the history of their community and the environmental issues it faces.
Teen Boys Group, Nenagh Foróige, Tipperary
*A collaborative project to create a community garden*

The Nenagh Teen Boys decided to work in collaboration with the Nenagh Tidy Towns and Nenagh Men's Shed to create a community garden. The group worked together to source materials and plant flower beds in the unused plot of land that was to become their community garden. The group also established a plaque in the garden.

Tramore Dog Park Citizenship Group, Waterford
*A new dog park for Tramore*

The Tramore Citizenship Action Group contacted their local TDs regarding the establishment of a dog park for the local area. They created a petition and contacted the county council. They arranged a meeting with the council architect and presented the petitions. The group continued to campaign for the dog park through a targeted Facebook survey, petitions, phonecalls and displaying their dog park vision board.

Tyrrelstown United Foróige Group, Dublin 15
*A campaign to get a new astro turf in Tyrrelstown*

The young people of Tyrrelstown wanted to provide a resource for all the young people in the community which would encourage them to get active, be outside and get healthy. The local astro pitch had been removed so they decided to get a new one. They first did a survey of the area to find out if people wanted an astro turf pitch, which came back positive. Then they created a petition and gathered signatures. They wrote letters to Fingal County Council and the Mayor; they attended the Tyrrelstown Development Group meeting. They have received communication back both from the Council and the Mayor and plan to continue the campaign until it is successful in gaining an astro turf pitch for the area.

Environment

Ballinfoyle Youth Development Project, Galway
*An anti-littering campaign focused on parents and children*

After a walkabout in their community, Ballinfoyle Foróige Club noticed an increase in the amount of litter in the locality. They decided they wanted to improve these spaces by showing children about the impact of littering on the environment. They also wanted to change how parents and their children play in the local green spaces. The group organised an environmental garden day for the community in their local Ballinfoyle garden, and ran simple games to educate both young and older generations on how to prevent littering. The also organised educational workshops with two local primary schools.

Carndonagh Foróige Club, Donegal
*A tree planting to tackle climate change*

Following flash flooding in August 2018, many families were left homeless and extreme damage occurred. Carndonagh Foróige Club wanted to address climate change and reduce the impact we have on the environment to prevent future disasters. The club contacted Donegal County Council to seek permission to plant trees and for an appropriate place to plant the trees. They then attended a tree sale run by the Inishowen Environmental Group to buy the trees. The group planted a tree on Barrack Hill and invited local representatives and the local tidy towns.

Corduff Foróige Transition Group, Dublin 15
*A litter pick to improve the local area and inspire others to do the same*

The group identified a severe litter and pollution issue in their area and decided to take action. The litter was proving to be dangerous as it included sharp materials such as glass. The group contacted
'Clean up Corduff' to obtain equipment for a litter pick. Following the litter pick the group liaised with Fínal County Council to dispose of the rubbish. The project has resulted in the group being more conscious of litter in their community and their own littering habits.

**Fiesta Foróige Juniors, Westmeath**

**A recycling project to reinvigorate the community hall**
The young members of Fiesta Foróige Athlone decided on a recycling project to reinvigorate the community hall. They first collected 2ltr bottles in their houses, and then came up with ways to reuse them which would benefit the community centre. They made little green houses from the plastic bottles because of the frost and snow; and used milk cartons for decorations and flower pots which they planted and have maintained and watered since.

**Funzone Foróige Juniors, Dublin 7**

**A poster campaign to tackle littering**
Funzone Foróige Juniors decided to do a poster campaign to tackle the issue of littering in their community. They chose the phrases and drawings they wanted to include and sought permission to display the posters in the local community centre. After sourcing the necessary materials the group got to work and produced the posters.

**Heron GYDP, Carrigaline, Cork**

**An upcycling project creating furniture for local community groups**
This group wanted to help a variety of people in their community so they interacted with a number of organisations and found what they most needed. They collected pallets and upcycled them. They then made a bookcase for the Youth Project, a flower dresser for the Community Complex Kitchen, and a pallet plant holder for the Carrigaline Day Care Centre. They also dug the garden area for the Carrigaline Day Care Centre, so they could plant flowers and plants. The Carrigaline Day Care Centre were delighted with the work of the young people and wrote them cards to thank them.

**Kinvara Foróige Club, Galway**

**An awareness campaign about the environmental impact of disposable coffee cups**
Kinvara Foróige Club organised an awareness campaign about the overuse of disposable coffee cups and the impact they have on the environment as most of them end up in landfill. They conducted a questionnaire asking people in the community about their use of disposable coffee cups. They came up with the slogans "Kinvara is Fantastic - We don't need plastic!" and "Before you take a sup - think about the cup!" Then they created posters about the campaign and put them up in their school and in the community. They utilised social media by creating a Facebook campaign, and will be involved in the 'Plastic Free Week' in their community.

**Lackagh 5 Foróige Club, Galway**

**An environmental project planting 5000 trees, plants and shrubs**
Lackagh 5 Foróige were delighted to assist in such a positive and ecologically important project where they planted 5000 trees, plants and shrubs in the local community. The aim was to provide tree cover and woodland in the community. On Mother’s Day weekend they assisted with the planting, provided face painting for the younger children, and got to take part in an information session by a bee-keeper on the importance of pollination. Two weeks later the group went back to tidy the beds and finish the planting.

**Lismore Foróige Club, Waterford**

**An art piece constructed from plastic bottles to raise awareness about recycling**
Lismore Foróige club researched recycling and the impacts of climate change. The group gathered plastic bottles from members of the community and promoted a community wide bottle drive.
through Facebook and Snapchat. The group also designed and created an art piece that they displayed at the local bottle bank to encourage locals to recycle and appreciate recycled goods.

**Mahon Youth Club, Cork**
*A multimedia anti-littering campaign*
Mahon Youth Club wanted to inspire their community to make Mahon a cleaner and tidier place to live. They wrote a song and recorded a video with an anti-littering message. The area has well documented litter issues, so the young people organised a community clean-up and designed a poster to promote it. They carried out surveys in the local school and wrote a letter to a local TD requesting more bins for the area.

**Mosney Foroíge Juniors, Meath**
*A recycling campaign for Mosney*
Mosney Foróige Juniors were aware that recycling was not being implemented fully in their community and wanted to make a change. The group researched the topic online and visited a recycling centre to increase their knowledge on the issue. The group then went door to door with leaflets to inform their community about recycling. They collected recyclable materials and used them to create things.

**Musehyper/Gamechangers Foróige Club, Leitrim**
*An animation to tackle littering*
The young people of Musehyper worked with a local artist to create a DVD to tackle littering in the area. They created storyboards of the journey of litter from buying chips to the litter ending up in the sea. The group composed the text for the DVD. The DVD includes an animation including a rubbish monster and is now being shown to schools in the area. To reinforce their work against litter the group participated in a litter pick.

**Rath Eglish Foróige Club, Offaly**
*A litter pick project to restore pride in the community*
Rath Eglish Foróige club decided to do a litter pick in partnership with the local development association. Due to bad weather conditions the litter pick had to be rescheduled. They sourced high visibility jackets, litter pickers, gloves and plastic bags from the litter warden. The group focused on four target roads and collected over 40 bags of rubbish in total.

**St. Joseph’s Foróige Club, Westmeath**
*An environmental project to promote alternatives to chemical weed killers*
St. Josephs Foróige Club decided to tackle the negative environmental effects of chemical weed killer in their community by offering an alternative. After conducting a survey to test the willingness of the community to change, the group contacted the Council Environmental Awareness Officer to assist. The group researched alternative recipes for weed and moss killer that were organic. They produced bottles of the spray, tested the spray at home and began pricing spray kits and ingredients to mass produce the spray for the area.

**The Majestic Girls Group, Dublin 15**
*A litter pick and flower bed planting*
The Majestic Girls Group contacted Fingal County Council and sought permission to hold a community clean up and to create a flower bed in the park. They obtained the necessary equipment for a litter pick from the county council and also aquired flowers and plants. The group carried out their litter pick and will look after their flower bed for the upcoming year to nurture the plants.
Tyrrelstown 5th Class After School Group, Dublin 15
*An environmental project to clean-up the local park*
During a walkabout in their community, the young people noticed that there was an issue with littering in their local park. They decided to organise a "clean-up" of the area. They contacted the local council to highlight the issue and were provided with equipment to help with their project. They were also given two trees by the council to plant in the park. During the project the young people learned a lot about the environment and about how the council works to keep the park clean for the local community.

Whitechurch Youth Development Project and YEW GYDP, Dublin 16
*A community clean-up project*
Whitechurch and Yew Project decided to do a clean-up in their local area to improve it for everyone. The group bought resources for the clean-up, which they held on March 24th. The group received a good deal of community acknowledgement for the great job they had done.

**Equality & Social Inclusion**
*An awareness campaign on LGBTI+ terminology to tackle homophobic bullying*
Alan Malone, Westmeath
After realising that people in secondary school feel uncomfortable discussing and questioning sexuality and gender identity, Alan Malone decided to raise awareness of LGBTI+ terminology and address a lack of understanding leading to homophobic bullying. Alan conducted a questionnaire in school and designed presentations which he delivered to the students. Alan created and displayed two boards of posters to explain LGBTI+ terminology. As another facet of Alan's campaign the local Foróige Club created LGBTI+ spectrum dream catchers.

Art Group, Mulhuddart Community Youth Project, Dublin 15
*An art project to promote inclusion*
The group decided to promote inclusion in their community through designing a canvas for the local school. The group compiled a list of words and phrases and researched the meaning of them. They created stencils for their chosen words. They held a spray painting class and practiced prior to creating the final product. They each created their canvas and presented them to the school to be displayed.

Balbriggan Youth Committee, Dublin
*An event to promote friendship between schools in the area*
Balbriggan Youth Committee were aware of the tensions that existed between students from the three local secondary schools. They decided to tackle this by inviting five students from each school to an event to build friendships and understanding. They organised food, bingo, ice breakers, refreshments, a speaker, Irish dancing and a piano piece to facilitate relationship building.

Buncrana Foróige Club Seniors, Donegal
*A cultural awareness evening promoting diversity and equality*
Buncrana Foróige Club realised that there was a lack of awareness in their community about other cultures and decided to tackle the issue by holding a cultural evening for members of the Junior Foróige Club. The members each took responsibility to research and represent the cultures of one country at the event. They included China, Spain, Greece, The Netherlands, India, Nepal, Italy and Switzerland. The group provided information and traditional food from their country.
**Computer Clubhouse Blanchardstown, Dublin 15**

*A project to encourage girls' interest in technology*

Foróige Blanchardstown Computer Clubhouse wanted to get more girls involved in the group. They decided to make fairy costumes using LED lights which they would showcase at the St Patrick’s Day parade. To make the wire wings they soldered the bent pieces of wire together, then decorated the wings with fabric, spray paint, feathers, glitter and gems. Lastly they placed strip lights and singular LEDs on their dresses and wings. They called themselves 'Fairies of the Future' and handed out small business cards on the day with their club name and contact details.

**Foróige Juniors, Buncrana, Donegal**

*A project to raise awareness about the different grounds of equality*

Buncrana Junior Foróige club researched issues related to equality such as religious equality, racism, gender neutral fashion and marriage equality. To learn more about what their peers know about the theme of equality they created a questionnaire which they used as an information tool in local schools. Following this they presented their findings to both the Junior and Senior Foróige clubs in the area to improve their understanding of equality issues. They also invited a speaker to do a disability equality workshop.

**Foróige Linking Friends, Dublin 15**

*The creation of a sensory area in the local Foróige club*

The group were approached by parents of a member of a Foróige Autism Club, who highlighted the need for more integration within the community. They hoped that members of both groups would be able to work together in order to develop new friendships. They decided to bring both groups together in order to complete a project to make a sensory area in their youth club. The young people brainstormed ideas, researched the topic, made sensory toys, and decorated the room. There has been really positive feedback about the project, and the young people say they have realised the importance of integrating everyone within the community.

**Longford Comhairle na nÓg, Longford**

*An event to celebrate diversity*

This group decided to celebrate culture and different cultural traditions through their project. They applied to Creative Longford for a grant and held an open outdoor free event which showcased different traditions, art and music. There was excellent community involvement in the event, which was enjoyed by all and the group intend to host similar events in the future.

**Mayo Comhairle na nÓg, Mayo**

*A ‘Comhairle Talks’ event to promote equality*

Mayo Comhairle na nÓg recently held their inaugural ‘Comhairle Talks’ event which was attended by almost 900 people on the topic of equality. The 6 speakers at the event were Ibrahim Halawa, Maria Walsh, Jamie Harrington, Andy Moran, Geraldine Lavelle and Laura Corcoran. The group feel that by hosting these ‘Comhairle Talks’, they have spread awareness regarding the lack of equality in the community and the need for a greater number of services dedicated to equality.

**Mountrath Foróige Club, Laois**

*A St. Patrick’s Day Parade float to highlight cultural diversity*

Aware of the variety of nationalities living in their community, Mountrath Foróige Club wanted to explore the traditions and cultures of these international groups. After discussing various ideas, the young people decided to participate in the St Patrick’s Day Parade to raise awareness locally. They researched the different cultures in their community, and borrowed flags from the local school. The group plan to continue this project, and hope to host a multi-cultural day to highlight the difference cultures, food, dress, song and dance of people living in their community.
Oliver Yeoman, Donegal
*A Dungeons and Dragons themed group to improve self-confidence and social skills*
Oliver Yeoman decided to create a group to help people improve their social skills and bolster self-confidence. He wanted to encourage people to speak to and see each other more so he chose a Dungeons and Dragons club, as it is 90% auditory. The club helps people create characters and encourages them to roleplay.

Our Generation, Carrick on Suir NYP, Tipperary
*An equality project to bring positivity to LGBTI+ discussion*
Carrick on Suir NYP Our Generation carried out an equality project to bring positivity to LGBTI+ discussion. The group feel that a lot of the coverage of LGBTI+ issues is negative and emotional so they wanted to bring some positivity to the discussion. They decided to make an awareness video about the positive developments in LGBTI+ issues in Ireland and also filmed some ‘Dear past me’ messages. They hope to promote the film through social media and beyond when it is completed.

Ratoath Foróige Club, Cork
*A project to support young people transition from primary to secondary school*
Ratoath Foróige Club researched the census to determine the growing needs of their community. Having realised that 19% of their community were primary school age the group wanted to provide a service to meet their needs. The group identified the importance of supporting 6th Class students as they transitioned to secondary school as they thought that this was a time where young people's mental health might be more vulnerable. The group established a Foróige Juniors Club for Ratoath. In order to establish the new group the young people had to recruit adult volunteers, find a venue for the club and source finances for promotional materials to raise awareness of the new club in the community.

Tallaght Youth Forum, Dublin 24
*A campaign to combat anti-social behaviour and promote positive, safe spaces for young people*
The group created an online survey in order to understand the issues facing young people in their community. They decided to focus on two of the biggest issues - anti-social behaviour and not enough spaces where young people could socialise safely. They realised that they could combine both of these issues by building awareness of The Big Picture in Tallaght as a positive place for local young people to gather and take part in groups. They designed an information leaflet, contacted printers and successfully received funding from YouthBank for production of the leaflet. The group have developed a valuable resource for young people in the community.

The Swamp Foróige Club, Dublin 6W
*A project to promote equality, diversity and inclusion*
The Swamp Foróige Club assessed the services available in their area and discovered that there was a lack of local supports for members of the LGBTI+ community. The group decided to produce a video highlighting the importance of inclusion and they also participated in the Pride parade to promote their message. The group have decided to participate in the parade every year to continue to demonstrate their support.

Truagh Foróige Club, Monaghan
*A Santa experience for families of children with special needs*
Truagh Foróige Club organised their annual 'Santa Experience' for families of children with special needs. Having learned from previous years, the group knew that without this event many families in the community would not have had the opportunity to visit Santa. The young people sourced a venue, spoke to the local Special Needs Parent's Support Group, sent out invitations and organised entertainment. The group also organised for photographs to be printed and posted to the families.
after the event. They received excellent feedback from those who attended, and raised awareness of special needs within their community.

**Wednesday Café Committee, Phibblestown, Dublin 15**

*A fundraising project for local autism clubs*

This group wanted to raise awareness of autism and fundraise for local autism Foróige clubs. They decided to play to their strengths of baking and organising games for younger children so that they could bring the community together and raise funds at the same time. They first held a cake sale in their school, and then held an Easter party for local primary school children. They organised the games, face painting and dancing for the Easter party. The group raised a fantastic €287 to be divided between the two local autism groups.

**Health and Fitness**

**Ardagh Foróige Club, Mayo**

*A project to bring festive cheer to a local hospital on Christmas Day*

Ardagh Foróige Club organised a Christmas morning visit to the local hospital and brought presents to the patients. To do this they held a raffle in the local mart which raised over €1,100. With this they bought Christmas presents, crackers and chocolates, and had money left over to buy extra items for the hospital which helped save on their yearly budget. On Christmas morning the members and leaders dressed up in Christmas gear, and one of the volunteers dressed up as Santa. Thirty two members and leaders enjoyed Christmas festivities with the patients and staff on Christmas Day. Club members interacted with patients - pulling crackers, reading jokes, placing hats on their heads and singing and dancing to Christmas music. They have decided this will be an annual event.

**Ballineen Foróige Older Members Club, Cork**

*A video and workshop on underage drinking, negative behaviour and body image*

After hearing several reports of young people's behaviour at youth discos, Ballineen Foróige Club wanted to address the issue and help to ensure the safety of young people on a night out. The group created a video to highlight the harmful effects of underage drinking and negative behaviours. They also developed a workshop on the issue and incorporated body image as a topic.

**Carracastle Foróige Club, Sligo**

*A sponsored walk to raise funds for the Make a Wish Foundation*

After hearing about the Make A Wish Foundation, Carracastle Foróige Club decided to fundraise for the charity. They chose this need as they felt it was important to help young people who had life threatening medical conditions. The group organised a sponsored walk to raise money for the charity. They raised €220, and received excellent feedback from members of the community. The young people plan to organise another fundraiser in the coming year.

**The Quad, Citizenship Group, Roscommon**

*A fundraiser for the Irish Cancer Society*

This group decided to fundraise for the Irish Cancer Society, as a number of them know people impacted by Cancer. After deciding to host a quiz, the group designed posters and handed them out in their local shops and schools. The project has helped to form close bonds in the group as they have come together to achieve a common goal and has also helped them form a stronger relationship with their community.
Club Óige Feachtas Tamhlachta - Junior Group, Dublin 24

*A campaign to donate Easter Eggs to Tallaght Hospital*

After brainstorming ideas, the group decided to donate Easter Eggs to Tallaght Hospital so that the Easter Bunny could deliver them to children on Easter Sunday. The young people encouraged their friends, family, and members of the community to support the project, and donate Easter Eggs. They organised to meet the Hospital's fundraising manager, and presented her with the 28 Easter Eggs they had collected. Through the project, the young people developed an understanding of the hard work done by staff in the hospital, built relationships with other members of their community, and realised that their actions can have a big impact.

Club Óige Feachtas Tamhlachta - Senior Group, Dublin 24

*A fundraiser for Crumlin Children's Hospital*

Club Óige Feachtas Tamhlachta held a fundraiser for Crumlin Children's Hospital. They chose this cause because a few of the members had been in Crumlin Children's Hospital or know children who have been there. They therefore wanted to raise money to help provide more equipment and services to help sick children. The group decided to hold fundraisers in two schools, they held a raffle in Firhouse Community School in Tallaght, and held a cake sale in Coláiste de hÍde in Tallaght where they also sold hot chocolate.

Croom Youth in Action Project, Limerick

*A project to promote healthy lifestyles and to fundraise to support the elderly*

Croom Youth in Action group organised a Christmas Run in their community to promote healthy lifestyles for young people in the community. They researched the project by speaking to different generations of people living locally so that they could understand the issues that were important to them. The event was a huge success, with many young people from the area taking part. They received great feedback from the whole community, and the funds raised were donated to the local Old Age Pensions Group.

Darragh Hynes, Meath

*A culture night to raise funds for St. Francis Hospice in Blanchardstown*

After conducting a survey, Darragh Hynes decided that he would raise funds for St. Francis Hospice, as it was a charity close to many in the community. Darragh, with the support of Ratoath Foróige Club, organised a culture night in the local village theatre. At the event people were encouraged to display talents in a non competitive atmosphere. Darragh contacted the hospice and sought permission to fundraise for them and they provided buckets and t-shirts. Through ticket sales, raffle tickets and the bucket collection Darragh and the team raised €2,140 for St. Francis Hospice.

Deerpark, KEY Project, Dublin 24

*A Christmas party for the community and a fundraiser for the Irish Cancer Society*

The young people from the Key Project wanted to hold an event to bring the community together and they also wanted to raise money for the Irish Cancer Society. The group decided to host a community Christmas party. They planned activities for the night, organised entertainment and decorations and baked cakes and buns for the event. At the event they held a raffle. Following the event the group wanted to raise more funds for the Irish Cancer Society, so they participated in a 5km fun run and collected sponsorship from friends and family.

Enniscrone Foróige Club, Sligo

*A bed push in aid of 22q11 Deletion Syndrome and the Ronald McDonald Fund*

Enniscrone Foróige Club wanted to raise awareness of the 22q11 Deletion Syndrome and the Ronald McDonald Fund. The group decided to hold a bed push on the main street of Enniskrone to raise funds. The members publicised the event and sought permission from the Gardaí. They sourced materials for the bed from local donations and sponsorship cards were given to each member of the...
club and a bucket collection was held during the Bed Push. The group raised €1,452 and a lot of awareness for both charities.

Foróige Fusion 1, Mayo

A sale of wristbands in aid of the Make a Wish Foundation

The Foróige Fusion Club approached a local person involved with the Make a Wish foundation to see how they could get involved. The group decided to sell wristbands on behalf of the organisation. The members organised a rota for instore sales in local shops after receiving permission from shop owners. The club successfully raised €1,463.

Girl’s After School Programme, HCYP, Dublin 15

A family fun day to raise money for terminally ill children

This group organised a family fun day to raise money for terminally ill children via the Laura Lynn children’s hospice. They event took place in the local community centre, and they received help from parents and the community who baked items such as cakes, scones, and donated spot prizes for their raffle. When guests arrived they had opening speeches, welcome songs, a bake sale, face painting, a raffle draw, auction sale, and novelty games on the pitch. The group raised €1,444.20 for Laura Lynn and were commended by the Mayor of Fingal County Council who was in attendance.

Girl’s Group, Springfield/Fettercairn Community Youth Project, Dublin 24

A bake sale to raise funds for Our Lady’s Hospice

The group decided to raise funds to benefit the patients in Our Lady’s Hospice. After discussing potential ideas, they chose to hold a bake sale. The young people felt this event would work, as they had previously been part of successful bake sale events in their school. They have researched the work of Our Lady’s Hospice, and have practised baking ahead of the fundraiser. The ongoing project has engaged the group, and brought greater awareness of the needs of sick people in their community.

Health & Fitness Boys, Mulhuddart Community Youth Project, Dublin 15

A health and fitness boot camp for 10-12 year olds

The MCYP Health & Fitness Group decided to raise awareness and share their learning on the benefits of health and fitness. They organised circuits, recipes for smoothies and an informational powerpoint. They held an event for young people aged 10-12 to administer their new resources.

Islandeady Foróige Club, Mayo

A project to promote healthy eating

Islandeady Foróige Club decided to tackle the issue of obesity and promote healthy eating amongst children and young people. They wrote a poem, ‘Boost Your Mood’ and gave copies to students in the local primary school. They planted vegetable seeds with the children and gave a workshop to give them the opportunity to get to know and taste different fruits, vegetables and healthy snacks. They also produced a video tackling the extremes of eating and held a tasting evening to effect change in their own peers.

JJs Foróige Club, Kildare

A fundraiser for a specially adapted school bus

This group of young people all go to St Anne’s Special School on the Curragh. They decided to hold a table quiz fundraiser to help towards the School’s “Operation Transportation” fundraiser for a specially adapted bus for St Anne’s. They raised an amazing €400 which will go towards buying the bus for the school. The group were thrilled with the support from the community and plan on holding more fundraiser’s in the future.
Kilmuckridge Foróige Club, Wexford
*A coffee evening to help buy a new MRI Scanner for Wexford Hospital*
Kilmuckridge Foróige Club wanted to help Wexford Hospital buy a new MRI Scanner and decided to help their fundraising efforts. The group organised a coffee evening where they baked cakes and organised a raffle and bingo. They successfully fundraised €1,800.

Knockraha Foróige Club, Cork
*A fundraiser for a local girl with a rare skin condition*
This club decided to fundraise for a local baby, Alana, who has the skin disease Epidermolysis Bullosa, known more commonly as Butterfly Skin. They sold Christmas hampers and tickets, and raised €1000. They presented the family with the cheque through Debra Ireland. With her skin condition, it takes three hours to bandage Alana every day and the group were delighted to give both Alana and her family their support.

Little Einsteins Foróige Juniors, Dublin 6W
*A fundraising campaign to help Crumlin Children’s Hospital, the Irish Motor Neuron Disease Association and Our Lady’s Hospice*
The Little Einsteins chose to fundraise for three charities that were close to their hearts - Crumlin Children's Hospital, the Irish Motor Neuron Disease Association and Our Lady's Hospice. The group organised a bake sale and chose to use a token system to ensure that proceeds were divided amongst the three charities reflecting the wishes of the public. The group held their event in the local bridge club.

Louisburgh 2nd and 3rd year Foróige Club, Mayo
*A stationary cycle in aid of Crumlin Children’s Hospital*
The group decided to hold a cycle using stationary bicycles in aid of Crumlin Children’s Hospital. They divided roles to include promotion, speakers, social media and event specific items. The group sought permission to use the kitchen and bathrooms in the town hall and sourced exercise bicycles. The event also gave locals the opportunity to talk to young people who have been in Crumlin. The money raised was donated to the Nazereth Ward, which deals with infants under 1 year old.

Mosney Foróige Club, Meath
*A charity game, bake sale and raffle in aid of the Gary Kelly Cancer Support Centre*
Mosney Foróige Club contacted the Breast Cancer Screening Service to ask for information on breast cancer and received booklets and flyers to present to their members. The group arranged an all gender, all pink football/basketball match to raise funds for the Gary Kelly Cancer Support Centre and organised a bake sale for the day. The event coincided with mothers day and as part of their efforts to raise funds the group organised a raffle which included flowers and chocolates.

Newcestown Foróige Club, Cork
*A table quiz in aid of Bandon Special Olympics*
The group wanted to organise a fundraiser for Bandon Special Olympics that could be enjoyed by the entire community. They decided to hold a family friendly quiz. They organised the quiz along with a raffle in their parish hall and arranged the questions. The chairperson and a representative from Bandon Special Olympics made speeches and two local members who have qualified for the Special Olympics were involved in the raffle draw. The group raised €962.

Noelle Kilpatrick, Donegal
*A bake sale and raffle in aid of the Irish Wheelchair Association*
Aware that there are many inaccessible areas in her community, Noelle Kilpatrick decided to raise money to support wheelchair users. She interviewed the coordinator of the Irish Wheelchair Association before embarking on her fundraising. Noelle then organised a bake sale in school and
approached local businesses for raffle prizes. The bake sale raised €180 and raffle ticket sales are ongoing.

**Peacock Graffiti Art Group, Dublin 15**  
*A fundraiser for Laura Lynn children’s hospice*  
This group of young people fundraised for Laura Lynn Children’s hospice by taking part in a local family fun day. They painted pictures on canvasses which were sold at auction. The group worked in partnership with another local Fóige group on the event and between them they raised €1444.20 for Laura Lynn and were commended for their efforts by the Mayor of Fingal County Council who was in attendance.

**Tallaght Friday Group, Dublin 24**  
*A fundraiser to buy stimulating toys for sick children in hospital*  
The Friday Group in The Big Picture in Tallaght decided to raise money for sick children in Tallaght Hospital. To make the children more comfortable during their stay, they wanted to buy toys for them. They contacted Tallaght Hospital and asked what the children would like and what they would benefit from. The were told they would be delighted to receive jigsaws, books and games. They raised money to buy these by organising a 5K fun run and a raffle. In total they raised a €297.

**The DECK Youth Project, Donegal**  
*A fundraising Easter camp for Heart Children Ireland*  
The DECK Youth Development Project decided to hold a fundraising Easter camp to raise money for Heart Children Ireland. They chose this charity because a member of their group has gotten a lot of support from it over the years, so they wanted to raise awareness and promote the charity in their community. They organised an Easter camp for junior members of Fóige. As a group they also researched about common heart defects in Ireland and learnt about the type of support Heart Children Ireland provide to families.

**The DRUM, Techspace Group, Kilkenny**  
*A short film to highlight the danger of cannabis use*  
The group decided to make a short film to highlight the dangers of cannabis use. They felt that it was important to increase awareness of the issue amongst young people. They researched the topic, and learned about the process of filmmaking. Working as a team, they planned out the various roles involved in creating the project, and developed a storyline in order to deliver the message. They plan to enter their short film in competitions.

**WAY Project, Foróige, Wicklow**  
*A bake sale in aid of the local cancer support group*  
The young people in the WAY Project decided to raise money for the local cancer support group. They chose this project as many of them knew someone who had cancer. They baked enough cakes and buns to make 100 bags. They went around local shops and businesses on St. Valentine’s Day to sell their baked goods and made €220 for the Wicklow Cancer Support Group. They invited the support group to the WAY Project to give them the money raised and held a discussion about what the money will be used for.

**Young Godesses of Tyrrelstown, Dublin 15**  
*A raffle to buy toys for children who were spending Christmas in Temple Street Hospital*  
This group held a raffle to buy toys for children who had to spend Christmas in Temple Street. This was a response to an event that was taking place to mark the 10 year anniversary of Foróige in their community, they decided to hold a raffle on that evening to do some good for a charity. They wanted to help families that could be under pressure with hospital bills and to make children happy while in hospital. After the raffle they bought toys for the children and brought them to the hospital.
**Young Men’s Group, Carrick-on-Suir NYP, Tipperary**

*A bake sale to raise funds for the Irish Cancer Society*

Carrick on Suir NYP Young Men's Group organised a bake sale for the Irish Cancer Society’s 'Daffodil Day'. The group chose this project because many of them personally knew people who had been affected by cancer, and they wanted to give something back. The young people promoted the bake sale by handing out posters in the locality, and through social media. The community responded to the group, and they raised €270 for the Irish Cancer Society.

**Young Women’s Group, CABLE GYDP, Louth**

*An entrepreneurial fundraiser for Temple Street Children’s Hospital*

The group decided to raise funds for Temple Street Children's Hospital as a member of the group had been a patient there. The Cable Project created Christmas ornaments, Christmas cards and festive goodie bags and sold them at the RDS Christmas Craft Fair. They promoted their cause through establishing a facebook page. The project raised €123 for the Hospital.

**Young Women’s Group, MIDWAY Project, Waterford**

*A poster and video to highlight the negative aspects of vaping*

The young women of the MidWAY Project decided to research the effects of vaping as many young people had taken up the habit. The group created a poster to show the side effects of vaping on people’s health. They made a short film featuring 'Victor the Vaper' which they intend to put on for 6th Class and 1st Year students to discourage them from starting to vape.

**Dillon’s Foróige Club, Dublin 24**

*A bake sale and stay awake for Autism Ireland*

The members of Dillon’s Foróige Club decided to support Autism Ireland as a member of their community has Autism. They chose to organise a bake sale and host a stay awake in order to fundraise for the organisation. The group held their stay awake and bake sale in the Dominics Community Centre and successfully fundraised over €300.

**Bethany Donnelly, Wexford**

*A fundraiser and hair donation for the Rapunzel Foundation*

Bethany Donnelly became aware of the Repunzel Foundation and decided that she would get involved. In order to support the campaign Bethany had to ensure her hair was the minimum length (14cm) and organise a hairdresser that participated in the appeal. Bethany organised sponsorship cards and raised funds through a hair donation.

**Homelessness**

**Athboy Foróige Club, Meath**

*A fundraiser for the homeless and afternoon tea for senior citizens*

Athboy Foróige Club wanted to engage with the issue of homelessness in the area and also wanted to bring together the young and old. They decided to hold a raffle in support of the Athboy People Who Share Care Homeless Support Charity with a victorian themed afternoon tea to meet the senior citizens of Athboy. The raffle raised €403 and the money provided food, clothes, toiletries and sleeping bags for the homeless.
Athboy Foróige Club, Meath
*A Valentine’s Day dog walk in support of the homeless*
Athboy Foróige Club organised a charity dog walk in the lead up to St. Valentine's Day to raise money for Athboy People Who Share Care Homeless Support Charity. They organised decorations for the start point of the walk and held a bucket collection. They invited people to bring their dogs and have them walked or walk someone else's dog. The group successfully raised €44 for the charity and held a presentation of the funds to the Charity.

Ballinamore Foróige Club, Leitrim
*A sleep out in aid of the homeless*
The Hideout Club were aware of the great work of the North West Simon Community and North West Focus Ireland who had ensured that 60 families did not become homeless in 2017. They decided to support the work of both organisations and help them to fundraise for their work in the local area. The group decided to hold a sleeping-rough event to raise much needed funds and awareness of homelessness. As part of the event the group painted banners and t-shirts, applied for a fundraising license and held a bucket collection.

Barnacarroll TY Foróige Club, Mayo
*A fundraising appeal for the Simon Community*
Barnacarroll TY Foróige Club wanted to assist the vulnerable in their community in a real and tangible way. They decided to fundraise for the Simon Community. For one week all entry fees for the club was donated to the cause. Members of the club were asked to bring shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste to give towards a toiletries appeal. The group approached a local factory who donated 150 toothbrushes to their appeal. The group also held a Rice Krispe Bun bake sale in the lead up to Christmas.

Blackpool Juniors Youth Club, Cork
*A campaign to combat child homelessness*
Blackpool Junior Club decided to tackle child homelessness through fundraising in the form of a sleep out. They contacted local businesses for support. They held the sleepout on March 9th and donated proceeds to the Peter McVerry Trust. They also contacted local politicians and media to attend in order to raise awareness of the issue. The group raised an amazing €600, and were very grateful for all of the support they received from the community.

Club Óige Feachtas Baile Brigin, Co. Dublin
*A clothes and food drive for the homeless*
Many in the club attend Gaelcholáiste na Mara an Irish language secondary school, so the group spoke to their Príomoíde na Mara and asked if they could have permission to hold a clothes drive and food drive for Inner City Help for the Homeless (ICHH) in their school. They got clothes, runners, toothpaste, chocolate, noodles, cup a soups and Easter Eggs. They also arranged for a volunteer from ICHH to come to their school to collect all the items.

Club Óige Feachtas Baile Munna, Dublin 9
*A project to raise awareness of poverty and homelessness in Ballymun*
Club Óige Feachtas Baile Munna decided to raise awareness of poverty and homelessness and fundraise for the charity DePaul. They wanted to reach out and make a difference to at least one person on the streets by raising money to give to DePaul to help them provide more bed spaces per night for the homeless. They decided to do a bag packing in Ballymun which they did on the 15th of March. They found out that the people of Ballymun were very generous. They presented the money to DePaul on April 2nd.
Dillonstown Foróige Club, Louth

*A shoebox appeal for the homeless in Drogheda and Dundalk*

Dillonstown Foróige Club organised a Shoebox Appeal in aid of the homeless. The group publicised their appeal through social media, primary schools and the local text blast. The members organised a collection day for goods for the Shoeboxes and provided a wrapping station. They then delivered the gift wrapped shoeboxes to Drogheda Homeless Aid and Dundalk Homeless Aid.

Foróige Juniors, Navan, Meath

*A fundraising campaign in support of people living in poverty in Navan*

Navan Foróige Juniors invited local bodies that work with pressing issues in their community to come and talk to the group including the Meath Food Bank; the Simon Community and the Navan branch of the Order of Malta. The group learned that there were people in their area living in extreme poverty and they decided to take action. They wanted to support each group they had met with. They put together shoe boxes and collected coats, scarves and hats for the homeless. They also fundraised through selling novelty rice krispie treats and the creation of a cookbook, the proceeds of which went to the homeless charities they collaborated with.

Gateway Youth Project, Westmeath

*A Christmas market fundraiser for Focus Ireland*

The Gateway Youth Project held a Christmas market fundraiser for Focus Ireland. Several local businesses donated hampers for their raffle. They advertised stalls available and several people responded to the advertisement. They also made a floor plan of the hall and arranged to use it on the date they wanted. They organised for Santa to come and decorated the hall for the event. The proceeds of the event went to a homeless charity.

Girls Group, KEY Project, Killinarden, Dublin 24

*A project to help the homeless in the community*

The Girls Group from the KEY Project in Killinarden conducted a survey to learn more about public opinion on homelessness. The group fundraised in support of Focus Ireland by holding a bake sale and participating in the Foróige Fun Run. They held an arts and crafts day for children who live in hotels in the local area as a result of being homeless. The group also collected items and created hampers for the homeless.

Girls Group, ORB Project, Dublin 15

*A collection for new or next to new items to help the homeless*

This group organised a collection for new or next to new items to give to the homeless. They chose this cause because they believe that having a home is everyone’s right and that, especially at Christmas, even a little gift can go a long way. They contacted the homeless charity ‘Inner City Helping Homeless’, spoke to a manager and decided to donate gift bags. They felt their project was very successful due to the kindness and generosity of local people.

Kanturk Foróige Club, Cork

*A three tier campaign to help the homeless*

Kanturk Foróige club discussed issues that were important to each of them and ways in which they could make a difference. They collectively decided to support the homeless. The group were acutely aware of the conditions the homeless would face due to severe weather conditions. They organised a three tier fundraising campaign in aid of Cork Penny Dinners; collecting 31 shoe boxes for their shoe box appeal, raising €1,000 from a 24 hour stay awake and receiving three trolley loads of non-perishable foods in their collection.
Longford Autism Foróige Club, Longford
*A project focused on homelessness in Longford*
Longford Autism Foróige club decided to raise money for homeless charities and also raise awareness about the topic of homelessness locally. They contacted the county council to see how many people are homeless in Longford and what facilities were available to them. They found out there are two houses in Longford to help homeless people. The group decided to hold a bake sale for these charities. They raised €511 and learned that the local community is very generous and supportive.

Megan Hosford, Cork
*A fundraising concert in aid of St. Vincent De Paul*
After learning about the work of St. Vincent De Paul, Megan Hosford wanted to support the cause and hold a fundraiser. After mindmapping the possibilities to raise money, Megan contacted the school to ask if she could hold a concert. After inviting singer Pat Fitz to perform at the conference, Megan approached 1st, 2nd and 5th Year students to invite them to attend. Megan successfully raised €408 in aid of St. Vincent De Paul through her concert.

North Fingal GYDP, Co. Dublin
*A project to raise awareness of and funds for homelessness*
This group wanted to do something positive to support the homelessness. They spoke to a local homeless shelter to find out what people needed at that time of year. They then linked in with a volunteer-led music group to present a carol singing event in a local shopping centre to fundraise for hampers. They visited the shelter to see how people in homeless accommodation experienced day to day life, and presented the hampers and money raised.

Rath Eglish Foróige Club, Offaly
*A photo calendar to raise funds for two local charities*
Rath Eglish Foróige Club participated in a photography workshop with a local photographer which sparked an idea, to create a calendar with their own photography. The group researched the costs of printing and the average cost of a calendar to buy and determined it was viable to use it as a fundraiser. The group took monthly themed photos and compiled their calendar information and photographs. The group created and sold 270 calendars and made €800 for both Streetwise and Loffa and €600 for the club.

Seo É Foróige Club, Dublin 15
*A ‘lock in’ night to fundraise for the Simon Community*
Seo É decided to have a ‘lock in’ night in their club to fundraise for the Simon Community. The group did a walkabout and noticed how many homeless people there were on the street. They were really affected by what they saw as it was the middle of winter and many people had nothing but a sleeping bag to keep them warm. They felt it was important to fundraise for homelessness because living on the street or in a homeless shelter isn’t acceptable accommodation.

Shanagarry Foróige Club, Cork
*A shoebox appeal for the homeless supporting Cork Penny Dinners*
Shanagarry Foróige Club were aware of the number of people sleeping rough and less priviledged than they are. The club decided to organise a collection of gift filled shoeboxes. The group received good for and created 72 boxes, a tent, two sleeping bags, throws, large stuffed toys and various types of food. The group met with a representative from Cork Penny Dinners and heard about the work they do, the success stories and the struggles some families face.
Slane Foróige Club, Meath  
**A collection in aid of Saint Vincent De Paul Slane**  
Determined to help families and young people who were struggling financially, Slane Foróige Club decided to support Slane St. Vincent De Paul. The group, through collecting weekly donations, raised €280. This translated as 10 tokens for the giving tree, or vouchers for 10 teenagers in the area to ensure they had access to items they needed.

The Elementals Foróige Club, Dublin  
**A shoebox appeal for the homeless**  
The Elementals Group in Lucan wanted to support the homeless over the Christmas period and chose to collect, fill and wrap shoeboxes. The members each provided and filled at least one shoebox each. Their boxes went towards the Inner City Helping Homeless 'Fill a Luas' goal.

The Mixed Up Foróige Club, Dublin 15  
**A project to tackle food poverty through the provision of hampers for families in need**  
The Mixed Up Foróige Club decided to work on the issue of family poverty. It struck a personal chord for the young people as some of them have experienced difficult financial times where their families struggled to provide for themselves. The group designed and printed collection cards; decided the contents of food hampers; collected money from the community; and delivered food hampers to charity for the families.

Wednesday Group, Skerries, Dublin  
**A shoebox appeal for the homeless in Dublin City Centre**  
The growing social issue of homelessness sparked the Skerries Wednesday group to organise a shoebox appeal for the homeless in Dublin City Centre. The group collected empty shoeboxes, Christmas wrapped them and collected scarves, clothes, hats and gloves, toothpaste, toothbrush, hand cream, books, notepads and pens to fill the boxes. In each box they included a stamped envelope. The group walked through the city and handed boxes and sandwiches to the homeless along Grafton street, O’Connell Street, Tara Street and the bridges on the Liffey.

Intergenerational  
Charlestown OAPS, Charlestown Foróige Club, Mayo  
**A weekly helping hand for the elderly with their shopping**  
On noticing that the senior members of their community could do with help to complete their shopping, Charlestown Foróige Club decided to help. The group researched how they could assist by conducting a survey amongst the Active Retirement Group and shop keepers in the area. They then began their 'Helpful Fridays' initiative whereby two members are available in the shops at any one time to read labels, reach groceries on higher and lower shelves, as well as help to carry and pack shopping bags. After getting to know some of the elderly community members the group decided to hold a music night to further develop relationships.

Cloonfad Foróige Club, Roscommon  
**A shoebox gift to show the elderly that they are valued**  
It was brought to the attention of the young people of Cloonfad Foróige Club that some elderly people will spend Christmas alone and suffer from loneliness on a regular basis. The group created shoeboxes containing food, clothing and entertainment pieces and gift wrapped them. They delivered the hampers to the doors of the elderly so that they would know that they are valued members of the community.
Fayz Foróige Club, Mayo
*An art exhibition showcasing local talent in aid of the local senior citizens group*
Fayz Senior Foróige Club decided to raise money for the Saint John’s Rest and Care Senior Citizen’s Group to buy materials for activities for them. They approached a local art group who paint landscapes and arranged to sell their pictures. They joined forces with the local bingo group who were having a bake sale in the community centre to maximise community attendance and awareness. When word spread of the sale local photographers also offered to donate prints. The group raised €500, which they used to buy arts and crafts materials for the Senior Citizen’s group.

Foróige Fusion 2, Mayo
*An intergenerational project to increase engagement with older members of the community*
The group noticed the need for more interaction between younger, and older, members of their local community. After brainstorming ideas, they decided to organise a visit to their local nursing home. The young people planned activities, and practised music and dance ahead of their visit. The day was a success, and they received great feedback from the residents of the nursing home. The group feel that both they, and the older people, benefitted from the day, with each generation learning about the other. The nursing home has asked the group to visit again, and the young people also plan to visit the local hospital this summer.

Generations, Balyna Foróige Club, Kildare
*A project to show appreciation for the older members of the community with afternoon tea*
The group decided to enhance relationships between the young and old in Balyna. They invited senior citizens to afternoon tea. The group developed a questionnaire to have talking points on the day, organised tea, coffee, sanwiches and cakes and advertised in the local papers. They officially invited members from the Active Retirement Group, Mens Shed and Irish Country Women’s Association. They hosted the event in the Hamlet Court Hotel and decorated and dressed the room.

Girls Group, Togher Youth Development Project, Cork
*A collaboration between young and old to create an intergenerational cookbook*
The members of Togher Youth Development Project discovered from talking to members of the community that there was a huge divide between the younger and older generations in the area. The group decided to make an effor to irradicate this divide through regular meetings with older people in the community. The project continued to progress and has resulted in the elderly and youth groups coming together to create a cookbook containing traditional and modern recipies.

Inter-Generational Group, Mulhuddart Community Youth Project, Dublin 15
*A bingo event for the senior citizens.*
The MCYP Inter-Generational Group wanted to hold a bingo evening to mix with the senior citizens in their area. They chose to decorate and sell plates and mugs at the Mulhuddart Christmas fair in order to raise funds to provide prizes for the bingo event. Due to timing issues the group had to re-evaluate their plans and instead donated the money they raised to St. Lukes, to assist in organising an Easter trip for the senior group.

Kilconly Foróige Club, Galway
*An oral history video featuring older members of the community*
Kilconly Foróige Club received a grant for a laptop and projector and decided to utilise their new equipment to create an oral history video including interviews with grandparents and older members of the community. The group compiled questions to ask their interviewees focussing on differences in fashion and activities between modern day and when they were growing up. They recorded responses covering advice for young people and funny stories. They edited the footage and premiered the video at a community night.
Knocknacarra Area Youth Project, Galway
An intergenerational project to publish a cookbook with locally significant recipes
Knocknacarra Area Youth Project carried out an intergenerational project creating a cookbook. They connected with their community by collecting recipes from the elderly to create a cookbook full of tasty, multicultural and locally significant recipes. They did this to encourage better relationships between all generations in their community. The group plan to host a community bingo night with the proceeds.

Naul Foróige Club, Dublin
An intergenerational afternoon tea
The young people of Naul felt it was important to get to know senior members of their community and decided to organise an afternoon tea. The group introduced themselves to the Senior Citizens Club and extended an invite to them to afternoon tea. They created flyers and posters to reach more elderly people in the community that weren’t already involved in the Senior Citizens Club. The club decorated jam jars to brighten the hall and baked goods for the occasion. On the day of the event they arranged tea and coffees and conversation flowed intergenerationally.

Project Generation, Aoife May, Dublin 15
An intergenerational project to teach the elderly how to use technology
This group are working with Cherrywood Respite Home for the elderly which is close to their club. The young people teach the elderly about technology and the older people in turn tell them stories about their lives and how things used to be. The project is centred on young and old learning from each other. The young people also did a bag-pack to raise money to help support the home.

International Aid
Mary Wilson Reilly, Kildare
A project to fundraise for and volunteer with the Cara Project Centres in Kenya
Inspired by the volunteer work of a friend, Mary Wilson Reilly decided to take the plunge and commit to raising €2,200 in order to assist in the running of the Cara Project Centres in Kenya. Mary organised a table quiz, ran a benefit night in the local greyhound stadium and collected cash donations. She promoted her efforts through local radio, parish newsletters and local papers. After successfully fundraising the necessary sum, Mary then went to Kenya and devoted two weeks to assisting in the refurbishment and running of the centre she stayed in.

Aughrim Foróige Club, Galway
A fundraiser and gift collection for the Chernobyl Children’s Appeal
Following their successful fundraising event to welcome young people orphaned and/or with special needs from Chernobyl last Summer the group decided to organise a fundraiser to support a similar event this year. The group also organised a Christmas gift appeal to ensure that the young people from Chernobyl each received a gift at Christmas time.

Mental Health
Balla Foróige Club, Mayo
A project to promote positivity in the community
After conducting a walk around the local community, Balla Foróige Club discovered there was no public display of mental health service contact details. The community had recently experienced the suicide of a local and were determined to ensure that people knew the supports that were available to them. The group decided to bring positivity back into their area by creating a display in the community garden of positive quotes and contacts for support services. The young people also
created and distributed help line number cards and held discussions with mental health services that were relevant to their area.

Callum Maxwell, Meath

**A mental and physical health awareness campaign**

After researching the needs of young people in his community, Callum Maxwell became aware of the need to shine a spotlight on the issues of both mental and physical health for young people. Using a variety of resources and speaking to mental health experts, Callum prepared and delivered a workshop covering topics like empathy, stress and the importance of connectedness between mind and body through physical activity and mindfulness. He also ran a dance presentation with Transition Years, which was designed to build self esteem and confidence. This was so successful that he continues to run the classes with the young people.

Costa Del Kingswood Foróige Club, Dublin 24

**A mental health campaign including survival kits, a positivity tree and a mental health minute chair**

Costa del Kingswood created survival kits, magnets, friendship bracelets and certificates for primary and secondary schools to promote mental health awareness in their local area. The group placed a positivity tree in their community centre with messages and decorations they designed to further promote mental health. They also reconditioned a chair in their Foróige club to include positive mental health quotes and will encourage members, friends and community members to take a mental health moment in the chair.

District Foróige Club, Westmeath

**A project to improve mental health through movement**

This group decided to combine mental health and a desire to increase their physical activity by having extra meetings to walk together on the local green way. They organised a supervised walking group and they found the walk provided a support network for members as it gets everyone outdoors and gives an opportunity to talk about issues affecting you. The young people also researched the benefits of walking and support networks for good mental health. They have set a goal of walking the 'darkness into light' walk on May the 12th 2018. The young people were surprised at how beneficial the walking group is both socially and to their health.

Foróige Youth Innovators, Louth

**A mental health awareness campaign**

After participating in Pieta Houses' Darkness Into Light campaign the FYIs wanted to get people thinking about their own mental health and to become more aware of issues related to mental health. The group carried out a survey in their community, raised awareness online by sharing information on suicide and held a walking debate in their youth club on the topic of suicide. They organised a guest speaker, held workshops and arranged a mental health week.

Corduff Community Youth Project, Garden Mural, Dublin 15

**A mural to inspire the people of Corduff to seek mental health support**

Corduff Community Project discovered that a local family therapy centre were renovating a community garden and decided to get involved. The group designed a special mural which includes inspirational quotes on a handcrafted tree backdrop. The project involved creating a tree backdrop using wooden pallets, painting and sourcing quotes. The mural aims to inspire the community to seek support if they need it in the therapy centre.
Islandeady Senior Foróige Club, Mayo

A cherry blossom planting to raise awareness of the importance of positive mental health

Islandeady Foróige Club researched the ‘green ribbon’ campaign and learned all about promoting a positive approach to Mental Health and removing the stigma associated with it. They decided to plant a tree to remind people of the community to consider their Mental Health. They approached a garden centre to donate a tree and discussed the location of the tree with the parish priest. They learned that a Cherry Blossom already stood at the main church. After speaking with the pastoral council the group decided to plant a second cherry blossom at a second church. Hoping the trees could link the two churches in the area. They invited the playschool to lay stones at the foot of the tree. They held a launch day of the tree with a plaque ‘It’s ok not to be okay’.

Kate Lehane, Cork

An audio illusion to help people understand mental health issues

Kate Lehane decided to create an audio illusion to help people to experience, and thus understand, issues such as anxiety and other mental health challenges. After testing many audio tools, Kate decided to produce her illusion using a digital media platform called GarageBand. She researched what different people go through and took note of sounds and particular experiences that she could recreate through her piece. Kate shared her audio pieces through her blog on battlesofthemind.com.

Kilmavee Foróige Club, Mayo

A health and wellbeing awareness campaign

Kilmavee Foróige Club organised a project to highlight the importance of health and wellbeing. After researching the topic, they compiled and distributed surveys to young people and parents in the community. They organised an evening where parents could compare and discuss the survey results, and better understand young people’s lifestyles and the challenges they face. They also heard from Health Specialist Ainé McDermott, who returned to the club the following night to speak to young people.

Oldcastle Foróige Club, Meath

A community walk to raise awareness of mental health

Oldcastle Foróige Club organised a community walk to raise awareness of mental health. They took this issue on because their community had been stricken by a tragedy and they wanted to support the community to mind their mental health. They organised the walk for March 25th and applied for a Garda permit for it. After the walk the group provided refreshments in the local hall and held a workshop on how to care for your mental health. The group donated €401.90 to the mental health charities SoSad and Jigsaw.

Only Human, Ballyna Foróige Club, Kildare

A dance performance to tackle mental health issues

Conscious of the rising number of suicides locally and an increase of self harm amongst young people, Ballyna Foróige Club decided to tackle the issue of mental health. The group were aware that the local annual show would attract over 1,000 people which they could impact through their act. They decided to create a routine centering on three people suffering from mental health issues and the rest working to support them. The group performed the dance for five nights as part of the community show.

PIPER Girls Group, Tipperary

A booklet of positive thoughts to help make people smile

The Piper Girls Group wanted to bring some positivity to their area and decided to compile a booklet of inspirational quotes. The group compiled their favourite quotes which they researched online and designed the booklet. The members got their booklets printed and distributed them in their Foróige Club and the local Arts Centre.
The Code Breakers, Waterford

*An event to highlight the importance of positivity*

The Code Breakers identified a need to support positivity in young people and decided to host an evening event to increase positivity in their community. The group created positive message posters and thought up games, activities and speeches for the event. They held two events of a similar nature, one for the 1st year students and one for senior students.

Tyrrelstown REAL U, Dublin 15

*An interactive mental health stall at Foróige Fit Fest*

The group looked on the Jigsaw and Mental Health Ireland website and found that there is the 5 a day for mental health and the 5 ways of positive wellbeing. They collected materials and also got in contact with Mental Health Ireland and the HSE health promotion department and received leaflets. They decided to have a stall at a Foróige Fitness Festival as it is a great platform to promote positive mental health. The event was held on March 29th, and the group received donations from local businesses for prizes to be given out on the day.

Zapper Rapper Crew, Dublin 24

*A stay awake for Pieta House and a graffiti clean up*

The Zapper Rapper Crew decided to fundraise for Pieta House by holding a stay awake. The group also decided to clean up their area and took turns painting the walls outside of the local centre to cover graffiti.

Road Safety

Kilkerley Foróige Club, Louth

*A campaign to reduce the speed limit in Kilkerley*

Kilkerley Foróige Club decided to tackle road safety in their community by creating a campaign to have the speed limit reduced in the area. The group produced a video on the topic and conducted an email campaign to influence local T.D.s and councillors. The project engaged with other local groups for support.

Milaoise Armstrong, Donegal

*A road safety campaign aimed at young people*

Having learned first hand the devastating impact that speeding on our roads can have, Milaoise Armstrong decided to embark on a road safety awareness campaign for young people. She campaigned using the hashtag "Is the thrill worth the kill" and compiled a speech which she delivered to 6th Year Students in the local school. Milaoise spoke at the Inishowen Road Safety Conference which was the first of its kind in the area.

Safety

Catholic Youth Organisation (African Chaplaincy), Dublin 15

*A domestic violence awareness campaign*

The Catholic Youth Organisation wanted to tackle the issue of domestic violence as they were aware that domestic violence often goes unreported. They wanted to break the cycle of accepting domestic violence as a norm in some households. The group researched the topic, held group discussions, presented their finding and gave talks across six centres. They also organised a questionnaire and from the responses designed an information leaflet.
Corlough Foróige Club, Cavan

**A project providing defibrillator training for the community**

Corlough Foróige Club decided to do defibrillator training for the community as a defibrillator had recently been bought, but they didn’t know how to use it. They organised a challenge football tournament, a raffle and designed posters for the event. The group are looking forward to providing the training for the community and hope to continue the project in the months ahead.

Crossbridge Foróige Club, Wicklow

**A community breakfast morning to fundraise for a defibrillator**

Aware that many families and friends in the area had been affected by heart disease, Crossbridge Foróige Club decided to raise funds for a defibrillator for the area. Based on their research, the club realised that they would need to raise over €1,400 to purchase, install and store the defibrillator. The group decided to hold a breakfast morning and raffle in order to start the fundraising. They publicised the event through posters, social media and newsletters. The organised the event and provided freshly baked goods and served breakfast. First Responders were invited to give a workshop on the defibrillator and CPR techniques. Their fundraising efforts are ongoing.

Legend Lodgers Foróige Club, Dublin 15

**A campaign to install streetlights in the local park, and a fundraiser for the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre**

The group brainstormed about the issues that face their community, and decided to campaign for street lights to be installed in their local park, and also to do a fundraiser for the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre. The young people felt that lighting would improve the safety of the area. They researched the issue, and contacted the relevant politicians and councils. They also organised an leaflet drop locally to raise money for the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre. The group invited a spokesperson from the organisation to speak to them in their club, where they also presented her with their donation.

Muintir Bhaire Foróige Club, Cork

**A workshop and tips to stay safe on social media**

The Muintir Baire Foróige Club decided to tackle the issue of safety on social media through providing workshops and compiling a powerpoint. The group created a 'Top 10 List' of things to do to stay safe online. The group confirmed their venue and then issued invitations to local community groups and the club contact list. They organised refreshments for the evening. They led the workshops and followed up with discussion groups.

Older Girls Group, LEAP GYDP, Longford

**A project to support victims of domestic violence**

The LEAP GYDP members chose to support Bethany House and victims of domestic abuse. The group arranged to meet with the manager who gave them a tour of the premises. They discussed what needs the occupants may have. They then secured a grant from the local Youthbank to help finance the project. The group chose and purchased the items for the Hampers and presented them to Bethany House.

Saturday Club, Phibblestown, Dublin 15

**An online safety campaign focused on the dangers of talking to strangers online**

This group of ten year olds researched online safety workshops but there was none locally, so they also interviewed young people to find out if they knew what to do if approached online by a stranger, which they did not. After learning this they decided to create awareness about online safety, they designed posters to highlight the issue and produced a film. The group learned skills in photo-shop, storyboarding, public speaking, camera work, and editing. They also learned how to be safe online and in the real world, and raised awareness of this important topic amongst their peers.
Science & Technology
YouthBank Fingal, Dublin
*A tech week and career day to inspire young people of possible career choices*
YouthBank Fingal hosted a career day and tech week to inspire young people with possible career choices and to meet experts working in the field of STEM and other professions. They sent out flyers, invited experts and prepared the venue. Young people attended the event with their families and got the opportunity to explore what professions are out there, what it takes to be in the profession and how it matches their personality. The group also organised a pancake family day as part of their community integration programme.

Ballineen Foróige - Katelyn & Laura, Cork
*An innovative new cap for cans to prevent carbonation loss*
While participating in a 6 week engineering programme in their Foróige club, Katelyn and Laura chose to address the need to develop a cap for cans, made from recycled materials, to help prevent carbonation loss. They designed a sketch for the type of product they wanted and sought the help of an engineer to assist them in manufacturing a prototype of two kinds of lid to test with.

Ballineen Foróige - Agri Lads, Cork
*A farm safety project to develop a new 'kill switch' for tractors*
While participating in a 6 week engineering programme in their Foróige club, the Agri Lads decided to address farm safety. On discovering that 22% of all farm deaths are caused by farmers losing control of their farm machinery, they decided to tackle the most unsafe elements of tractors, the power take off (PTO) shaft. The group looked into ways to turn on and off the PTO drive from outside the cab. They developed a large kill switch for the rear of the tractor for immediate use in case of an emergency.

Other
Attic 2nd Year Committee, Longford
*A fundraiser to buy a defibrillator*
This group discovered there wasn’t a defibrillator accessible 24-7 to the local area, which has 10 estates and 6 schools. They chose to do an Easter Egg raffle to raise funds for the defibrillator and bag-packing in a local supermarket. The group received training on how to use the defibrillator and bought the defibrillator with the funds raised for the community. The group is very proud of their achievement.

Attic Transition Year Group, Longford
*A tribute night in memory of a cherished friend*
The group paid tribute to the memory of one of their dear friends, Toni Louise Harte. The young people felt that organising a music night would celebrate her memory and honour her love of music. Working as a team they sourced a venue, sound engineers and acts to play at the event. The event was a huge success, and received a really positive reaction from the audience, volunteers, and Toni’s family. They raised approximately €3,000, which was donated to the charity Aoibhinn’s Pink Tie. They are considering making this an annual event, and are also planning to release balloons in memory of Toni.
Ballaghaderreen Foróige Club, Roscommon

A range of age appropriate workshops to inform young people of the rights of the child

Aware that the Ombudsman for Children’s Office was inviting groups to make a commitment to start the conversation about informing young people about their rights, Ballaghaderreen Foróige Club decided to address the issue in their community. The group decided to address the topic using the UN definition of the child ‘a human being below the age of 18 years’ and therefore targeted a wide age range of young people. They arranged workshops to make young people conscious of their rights and what each right meant. The workshop activities were different depending on the age group they worked with. The responses from the workshops were compiled into a booklet and included artwork, poetry, short stories and articles.

Bonniconlon Foróige Club, Mayo

An information campaign to promote the use of eircodes

The group became aware of the need for people to know their eircode particularly in case of emergencies to ensure that emergency services can find your address easily and efficiently. The group researched the uses and importance of eircodes, interviewed locals about their knowledge of eircodes and compiled a list of the eircodes for their area. They then fundraised through a bakesale to buy the equipment they needed to communicate their eircodes to the community.

C.E. Óige Foróige Club, Donegal

A project exploring the impact Brexit will have on Irish farmers

This group examined the impact Brexit will have on Irish Farmers. They organised visits to Inishowen farms and spoke to farmers about how they’ll be effected. They also invited Deputy Charlie McConologue to speak to the group on the subject. The young people attended seminars on Brexit and held a community night to announce their findings. They also published the results in a leaflet and sent it to interested stakeholders and politicians.

Caolinn Tobin, Clare

An Easter egg drop for the young patients of Limerick Hospital

After Caolinn Tobin witnessed her brother in hospital she was inspired to do something to help children suffering illness. Caolinn organised an Easter Egg drop at the hospital for each day of the Easter week. She sought sponsorship for a costume to wear on the delivery, requested donations of easter eggs on social media and approached social media influencers with a larger reach to support the drive. For children that are fasting, she arranged simple templates and sewed felt bunnies.

Claremorris Foróige Club, Mayo

An event to promote the importance of reading and crafts for children

Claremorris Foróige Club noticed that the children in their community spent a lot of time on ipads, phones, xboxes and other forms of technology. They decided it would be a good idea to host a “Story and Craft Session” for children aged 5 - 7. They presented their idea to the local library and got permission to hold the event there. They designed a poster to give to children in the local primary school for their parents and they also displayed it in the library and in local shops. They prepared for the “Story and Craft Session” by deciding who would read the story, who would take charge of the crafts and who would hand out the treats when they were finished.

Corduff Community Youth Project, Dublin 15

A leaflet to inform 1st year students of the services and supports available

Following discussion with a group of first year students, the young people from Corduff Community Youth Project Group realised that there was a lack of information available to students as they moved from primary to secondary school regarding the supports available to them. The group produced a leaflet with information for first years including the services available to young people. The group distributed the information widely in the local area and through schools.
Corduff Cookie Squad, Foróige Juniors, Dublin 15
*A fundraiser to enable young people to participate in the Foróige Leadership for Life programme*

Corduff Foróige Cookie Squad Club were made aware of the great work of two young people in their community called Seán and Simone and decided to get behind them to raise funds to help them with their registration fees for the Foróige Leadership for Life programme. The group held a confirmation party whereby people paid €2 to attend with all proceeds going towards Seán and Simona. They arranged games, beverages, sweets and prizes for the event. As 18 people attended the party the group were successful in raising €36 for Seán and Simone.

Dunlavin Teen Scene Foróige Club, Wicklow
*An alphabet board for pre-schoolers for the local parent and toddler group*

On hearing that a new parent and toddler group had started in the local community centre, Dunlavin Teen Scene decided to take on a project which would support the new group in the community. They made an alphabet board for the pre-schoolers, which would help with the motor skills whilst being educational. They presented the alphabet board to the parent and toddler group, making new connections and friends along the way.

Girl's Kollection, Tallaght, Dublin 24
*An event to tackle anti-social behaviour*

This group wanted to hear from professionals working in the area of anti-social behaviour, to learn about the topic and then spread awareness of how it can be tackled. They organised an information session, designed posters, and applied for funding for the project from Youthbank. The girls have yet to hold the event but are excited to get the community involved and hear from professionals in the know.

L.C.S.S. Group, Dublin 24
*A project to raise awareness of the importance of quality education*

The group brainstormed about issues that effect young people, and following research about the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals they decided to do a project about Quality Education. The young people compiled a presentation on the issue, which will be delivered in their school, and they will take part in a question and answers session with teachers. During the project, the group learned about the need for quality education, and have raised awareness of the issue within their community.

Louisburgh Senior Foróige Club, Mayo
*A value for money research project comparing Foróige to other activities*

Louisburgh Foróige Club wanted to research the value for money of being a member of Foróige in comparison to other activities. They researched the cost of Foróige, created a survey and analysed results. They interviewed members from different sports, activities and groups in the area. They compared costs against other organisations and displayed the results. They determined that Foróige is value for money and their next step is to promote their club and encourage new members to join.
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